

11<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers

## Christmas Update Letter 2



As we near the end of term, I am writing to let you know of some key messages and updates.

**Christmas Cards** – **\*Today\*** is the last day to send Christmas cards into school. Please do not send any in next week as we will be unable to give them out to the children. If your child has cards to give out, please give them to your child's class teacher by home time today.

**Christmas Parties** – All children in school will be enjoying their Christmas parties on **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December**. Children can come to school wearing their party clothes/non-uniform. There is still time to pass any donations of party food to your child's class teacher by the end of today. No donations will be accepted next week.

**Christmas Jumper Day** – Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December is our last day in school before we break up. Please wear your Christmas jumper and/or accessory on top of your normal school uniform.

**Christmas Video** – The Christmas performance videos are being shared within school next week. They will be available for parents to view on the Google classroom from Wednesday afternoon onwards. We remind parents that these are only for personal use only and must not be uploaded or shared on any social media platform or network. Your child's Google classroom logins can be found in their planner.

**Christmas Hamper Donations** – Thank you to all the parents who made a donation during this difficult time. The Hampers will make a big difference to their recipients especially if they have not been able to leave their homes due to the ongoing pandemic.

**Christmas Colouring Competition** – The ISS Dinner Ladies have kindly asked if they can hold a Colouring Competition for the children to enjoy. Your child will be bringing home a picture today which can be coloured in over the weekend. ALL entries must be returned to school no later than Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December (as they will need to be quarantined before they are judged). There will be winning prize and a runner up prize for each class. We would like to thank the Dinner Ladies for their generosity.

## Important Messages and Reminders

**Entrance & Hometown Times** – This week our new start and finish times have worked really well. Thank you to all the parents for working with us to make this happen. Can I ask that parents do not arrive before their child's start time as we will only be able to let one year group on to site at one time and we need to prevent large groups gathering at the bottom of the path.

**Field Gate** – After the huge success of changing our entry times, we have decided that from Monday of next week we will be trialing opening the bottom field gate.

- On a **morning**, the gate will be open to children and parents as an entrance only, parents will still need to exit the academy via the main school gate as usual.

Outwood Grange Academies Trust is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales (No. 06995649)  
Registered office: Potovens Lane, Outwood, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF1 2PF

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This letter, including any attachments, is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain privileged information.  
Any unauthorised review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited.

If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the Outwood Grange Academies Trust and destroy all copies of the original letter.

- At **hometime**, the gate will be used as an exit only. Parents will still need to come into school via the gate (near kidzworld) but you can leave through the field gate if it is easier for you to do so.

Please ensure you socially distance and are considerate of other when entering and leaving school. We are hoping that this will work successfully so that we can continue to use it on our return to the Academy in January.

**Lunchboxes** – We have noticed that more and more children are bringing a less healthy selection of food in their lunchboxes. Can we suggest that parents provide a sandwich or pasta pot, small yogurt, a portion of fruit and no more than 1 small biscuit or cake and/or small packet of crisps. Please do not put chocolate bars or fizzy drinks into the lunchboxes.

**Shoes** – Just a polite reminder that children must wear proper plain black school shoes as part of their uniform. Trainer style shoes are not permitted. If due to bad weather children have to wear boots to school, please make sure a change of shoes is also provided.

**Bad Weather Alerts - SNOW** – Ridings FM has now changed to Greatest Hits Radio. You can tune into either Greatest Hits Radio or Pulse1 to hear up minute information on any school closures due to Bad Weather—Our School website and Twitter will also be updated daily along with the Wakefield Council website.

**Parking** – Do not park on the yellow zig zag markings outside of school. These markings are in place to keep our children as safe as possible when travelling to and from school.

#### Dates for your Diary

Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	Break up for Christmas Holidays
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	INSET Day
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	School reopens for Spring Term

Finally, I would just like to say thank you to all the parents for your co-operation and understanding throughout this past year. It has been a difficult year for everyone and due to us all working together we have been able to keep the school as safe as possible and provide the best education for your child.

I am looking forward to our last week of school before the holidays – we have lots of exciting activities planned. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Yours sincerely



Lindsey Corbett  
Associate Principal